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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Situation in the Dominican Republic (Report #289 - As of 7:00 am EDT)

The San Francisco de Macoris area was quiet during the night but the Imbert Government is braced for new violence as rumors indicate that more attacks are planned elsewhere in the interior.

Yesterday afternoon and evening occasional gunfire was heard in San Francisco de Macoris as police and army patrols continued a mopping-up operation in the outskirts and in the hills north of the city. Towns in the surrounding area were under heavy army and police guard and preventive arrests of suspected extremists were under way. Three civilians reportedly were wounded last night when police in Santiago fired into a crowd throwing stones at a police post. The crowd was dispersed and a recent report indicates that the city is quiet.

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This confusion and dissension within rebel ranks probably accounts for the rapid break-down in discipline in the rebel-held area. The Embassy reports that looting has now reached mob proportions with as many as 3,000 persons sacking the Santo Domingo warehouse area on 25 June. Another 3,000 persons passed through one US checkpoint into the rebel zone with empty paper bags apparently intent on joining the looters. Rebel officials made only half-hearted attempts to control the mobs.

On the loyalist side, Imbert's radio continues to attack the US, the UN and the OAS asserting that "they want to destroy the National Reconstruction Government." One radio broadcast stated that the US had sent 50,000 troops to the Dominican Republic ostensibly to prevent another Cuba but instead used these forces to prevent the removal of Communists entrenched in a section of the capital. The broadcast concluded that "it is something which cannot be explained, either from a military or political standpoint."

As expected, the trouble in San Francisco de Macoris has given new impetus to the Imbert government's demand that it be allowed to "clean out" the rebels in Santo Domingo. The US Consul in Santiago who visited San Francisco de Macoris on the night of 25 June reports that feeling among local military was running high against the OAS which they blamed for the fighting. The military spokesmen said that local extremists were encouraged by the OAS protection of the rebels in the capital.

Caamano's radio has announced that Dr. Jose Martinez Rojas has been accepted as Dominican observer to the Afro-Asian Conference in Algeria. The radiobroadcast stated that Martinez was chosen by the Santo Domingo Lawyer's Association and would report to the conference on the Dominican situation. Embassy officials report that Martinez, who is studying international law in Paris, is not

known as having extremist views or associates. He has been in Paris for several years and his most recent visit to Santo Domingo was in December 1964.